

## Decision by circulation 2014.2

### Revising procedure of the best paper competition

#### Background

The best paper competition was first conducted at CPRsouth3 and has continued since. The best paper was selected through a board-approved procedure. It was first approved in a board decision by circulation in 2008 (Board Resolution by Circulation 2008.2) and revised along with the paper selection process in 2012 (Decision by Circulation 2012.8)

The current procedure is as follows:

*The two highest-ranked papers in each session will be shortlisted for the best-paper competition. In the event non-shortlisted papers have significantly higher scores than shortlisted papers, the administrative partner may add up to three papers to the short list for a total of a maximum of  $n+3$ ,  $n$  being the number of sessions. It is necessary to have a short list of papers to be considered for the best-paper competition, to manage the workload of the judges. The best paper and runner up are to be selected based on a mix of factors including content and presentation. Audience scores will account for 40 per cent of the total as in previous competitions*

#### Proposed change

The two highest-ranked papers in each session will be selected as a candidate for the top 10 papers. The marks that will decide the rank of the papers are given by the reviewers at the double-blinded full paper selection stage. The best paper of the ten will be recognized during the conference. The audience scores will not be included because it's difficult to incorporate into the procedure. The organizers will make best efforts to direct the 10 best papers toward publication in appropriate journals.

The best policy brief (and runner up) will be selected by two judges (with no audience participation) will be continued as it was proposed in the Decision by Circulation 2012.8.

The proposal seeks to find a middle ground between the procedures at CPRafrica and CPRsouth. This is necessary for a smooth merger to occur. It has the concurrence of Research ICT Africa.

Please state your approval/disapproval in the below box

|                    |          |
|--------------------|----------|
| Approve/Disapprove | Approved |
|--------------------|----------|